

Friday, October 30, 2020

Dear Members, Friends, and Guests of Desert Hills Lutheran Church,

This weekend we celebrate All Saints Weekend. All Saints worship remembrance has roots back to the ninth century when Christians honored martyrs, later it became All Saints on November 1, nearly a millennium ago. My brother traveling across country let me know he stopped in Lake Crystal, Minnesota to honor our grandparents, aunt, and uncle buried there. I used to do that myself when I lived in Minnesota as my last cycle ride of the season, usually around this time of year. My grandmother and aunt both died on November 1, All Saints Day in the 90s. My grandmother was instrumental in my faith formation, as was my mother. My aunt who was my godmother gave her guidance also. My grandfather and uncle were key in helping me learn how men live out their Christianity. I mention this because this weekend we will remember saints who passed this last year from our congregation. We will have music and pictures and a time of quiet during worship to remember them. Remembrance is a critical part of our faith. Jesus told us at the Last Supper, "Do this in remembrance of me." When we remember and are grateful for those who helped form our faith and our character, we move the faith forward. So, this weekend, remember our friends from the congregation and remember your family and friends who helped plant the seeds of your faith and values. Additionally, always remember that we are the saints for those younger.

By now you should have gotten the *No Place Like Home* mailing, drawn from the Wizard of Oz. If you have not, please call the church office. We have three meals planned. If you are comfortable attending, please do. Troy Justesen and I will again present the video program following a delicious complimentary meal. Sign up early because we need to practice social distancing and cannot seat as many people. If you would like to sit with friends be sure to let the front desk know.

Please vote Tuesday if you have not already done so. In my entire life I have never prayed for an election as much as I have prayed for this one. I'm sure I'm not alone.

Blessings,

Pastor Martin